

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on February 16, 2017, in Room 110 of the DHMH Metro Executive Building, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Ronald Kaplan called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. Present for the quorum were Ms. Jillian DeLuca, Dr. Candace Robinson, Mr. George Sheckells, Mr. John Sloan, Ms. Ellen Stein, and Dr. Heather Weinreich.

#### **Staff Present**

Anthony DeFranco, AAG, Nursing Board Counsel  
Christopher Kelter, Executive Director  
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III  
Danielle Vallone, Board Investigator

#### **Absent Members**

Mr. John Cummins  
Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole

#### **Agenda Approval**

Mr. Sloan made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Stein seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

#### **Minutes Review and Approval for October, 2016, November 2016 and January, 2017**

Dr. Weinreich made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Session Meeting Minutes for October, 2016, November 2016, and January, 2017 with corrections to the November, 2017 Minutes. Mr. Sloan seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

#### **2017 Legislative Session**

Mr. Kelter will send link to Board members for them to be able to review the bills and will also send link for the fiscal notes. Mr. Kelter gave a brief summary of the following bills:

##### **HB 628/SB 517 – The NC Dental Bill**

Hearing was February 15, 2017. Maryland would be one of the states to truly address the court's decision. This bill provides protection to Board members. Mr. DeFranco streamed the hearing.

##### **HB 1474 – Office of Health Occupations**

This is the Secretary's bill from 2016

**HB 1471 – Business Occupations and Professions and Health Occupations – Regulation of Occupational Boards**

this bill is a smaller version/backup if failure of the NC Dental Bill. DeFranco does not really understand this bill.

**SB 38: DHMH – Updating Advisory Boards and Councils**

?This bill directly affects the Board, cuts Medcai out of the ?

**HB 668 – Health Occupations Boards (HOB) – Regulations and Policy Interpretations – Notice and Public Meeting Requirements**

This bill is requirements on Health Occupations Boards. A letter of concern is needed on what this bill entails. Mr. Kelter is geared toward a letter of opposition. Mr. DeFranco also agrees.

**SB 503 – Boards – Racial and Ethnic Disparities – Information Campaigns – Reporting**

This bill educates licensees about health disparities, cultural competency and racial disparities.

**HB 63: Health Care Practitioners – Cost Estimate Notice Required**

Christian Neville brought this bill to the Boards attention at January, 2017 meeting. There's no discussion on the bill.

**Regulatory Review**

**Incomplete Applications -Administrative Closure.**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that if an application for licensure is incomplete for one year, that it should be placed in the Maryland Register on February 17, 2017. Effective date of this bill will be February 27, 2017. Mr. Kelter informed the Board that there is approximately 25-30 licensure application. Mr. Kelter and Mr. DeFranco will draft a letter that will be sent to each applicant with an incomplete licensure application.

**Executive Director's Report**

**Customer Service Training for Staff- Calendar Year 2017**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that Zoann and he attended the training, which went very well. Various ways of solving problems were presented and discussed during the training.

**Towson University (02/21 and 02/23) and Loyola University (02/27) Presentations**

Mr. Kelter will meet and speak with the students and staff at Towson and Loyola University to inform them of the application process and how the requirements of the Board for licensing. Mr. Kelter informed the Board that the students are usually receptive to the information being presented to them. Mr. Kelter will try to reach out to the University of Maryland to meet with their students and staff.

### **Criminal History Records Check Update**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that the Board's Information Technology Specialists will create new fields into the database to allow for the 2017 Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists renewal process to be easier. Approximately 250 SLPs have completed the criminal history record check process. The CHRC process does take a little time. The Board agreed that licensees will not be able to open the online renewal process until the CHRC has been completed. Ms. Robinson inquired as to the timeframe that renewal notification is sent to licensees. Mr. Kelter informed Ms. Robinson and the Board that the time frame is 60 days and that letters and postcards will be sent to licensees reminding them of the criminal history records check process that needs to be done before the renewal of their license.

### **2017 Hearing Aid Dispenser Renewal- Update**

Mr. Kelter reported that approximately 12-14 Hearing Aid Dispensers are still sitting in the renewal database because the Criminal History Records Check has not been completed. Mr. Kelter informed the Board that total number of hearing aid dispensers that have renewed are relatively low.

### **2017 AUD and SLP Renewal – CE Audit for SLPs**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that a review of the CEU Audit was completed on 02/15/2017 and it was determined the 67% was in compliance with the Board.

### **Secretary Dennis Schrader – Meeting with the Health Occupation Boards**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that there as a nice, open dialogue given from Secretary Schrader in regards to his expectations and that Mr. Schrader was interested in the concerns of the Boards.

### **Board Membership Update**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that the list for the vacancy for the SLP Board member has been sent to the Governor's office. An Email was sent to all licensed Audiologists informing them regarding the upcoming audiologist vacancy on the Board. The deadline for response from the audiologists is April 07, 2017. Maryland Academy of Audiology will submit a list for the filling of the vacancy for the AUD Board member. Mr. Kelter informed the Board that Governor Hogan would like to have a lot of names to choose from. Mr. Kelter informed the Board that Financial Disclosures will be sent to the Board members by April 30, 2017 for completion.

### **Board Staffing Needs**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that an Email has been sent out to various universities for staffing needs.

### **Security Cameras at 4201 Patterson Avenue**

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that the security cameras that will be installed at 4201 Patterson Avenue will be external.

**Treasurer's Report- John Sloan**

Mr. Sloan reported for the month of February the Board has available funds in the amount of \$166,203.00.

**Statistical Report ending September 30, 2016**

The Board reviewed the Statistical Report included in the Board packet.

Mr. Kelter informed the Board that he does not have a statistical report .

**Board Chair – Election**

Mr. Kelter gave a brief summary and handout of the duties of the Board Chair.

Ms. Stein made a motion to nominate John Sloan for Board Chair. Dr. Robinson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Sloan accepted the nomination to be Board's Chair.

Mr. Kaplan nominated himself a Board's Treasurer. Ms. DeLuca seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Sheckells made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting. Ms. Stein seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the regular session meeting pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, 10-508(a) Annotated Code of Maryland. The regular session meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Kaplan, Au.D.  
Chair